



Parking & Transportation Committee meeting minutes
April 25, 2018 at 9:00am
549 Congress St.

Board members Present: Peter Tousignant (Real Estate Consultant), Phil Haughey (MHR Management), Megan Doane (Portland Stage), Mike McDonald (North River LLC)

Others: Denise Beck (METRO), John Peverada (City of Portland), Todd Dominski (East Brown Cow), Steve Houdlette (Bike Ped Committee)

Staff present: Taffy Eaton, Amy Geren, Casey Gilbert

Minute 1. Peter Tousignant opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and asked for introductions. Peter thanked everyone present for being flexible with the meeting schedule.

Minute 2. Review and approve February 28, 2018 minutes: Mike McDonald made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Phil Haughey seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Discussion: the answer to the Maine Medical Center expansion street closure question was added at the end of the minutes.

Minute 3. Multi Modal Marketing Campaign update: Casey Gilbert

- The contract negotiations moved slowly as there was a question of who would have ownership of some material at the end. Casey met with Greg Mitchell and The Brand Collective yesterday. The Brand Collective's process is to use focus groups, then a quick survey, then dialog.
- Focus Groups were scheduled: Greg Mitchell and Casey will do outreach. They might need Jessica Grondin's snow ban parking email list for residents who park downtown. Committee members are welcome to attend the focus group that best pertains to them. Meetings will be held at the PD office, 549 Congress St
 - Wednesday 5/16: 10-11:30am financial partners and 12:00pm, other transit organizations, GPCOG, METRO, Casco Bay Lines, Sh-Zoom
 - Friday 5/18: 10:00am & 12:00pm, commuters, residents, those who use transit
 - Monday 5/21: 10:00am business input, State Theatre, Waterfront Concerts and wrap-up
 - Invite anyone you may know who would want to participate
 - Want to keep groups 10 – 12 people. CG will set up a Google calendar to invite people
- The Brand Collective will start the creative work, with an end date hopefully in September
- Casey started a Google Drive with any information already available, including the multi-modal transportation video PD made
- Collateral materials will be distributed to all transit organizations to use in their marketing materials
- At the May Parking & Transportation Committee meeting, Casey will provide a summary and see if The Brand Collective can provide a summary of the focus group work or attend a P&T meeting

Minute 4. Fort Hill Parking Study: City's feedback

- Peter reminded those present about the recommendations this committee came up with and that the City had to review the study also.
- The Portland Development Corporation meeting was postponed. PD was to present on the 2 projects that PD received PedPip money for.

- Fort Hill has one more presentation to give. Councilor Thibodeau would like the study to go to the Sustainability & Transportation Committee. Casey will keep this committee posted on progress.

Minute 5. Other business:

- Commercial Street traffic study: pedestrian crosswalks and traffic study should be done during the summer. Bruce Hyman has a draft to the Department of Transportation. The next steps are unclear.
 - Are there things Portland Downtown wants assessed as part of the study? Casey will talk to Bruce to try and find out how PD can get involved.
 - Peter suggested Casey reach out to property owners near Commercial St in order to understand their concerns
 - Street vendors affect pedestrian safety
 - METRO does not have a Commercial Street route due to slow moving traffic
 - John Peberada said that signal timing might be looked at in the study
 - PD should be involved in all projects at least for informational reasons
- Phil read that the Rufus Deering renovation project suggested there would be a traffic study conducted by the developer. John said there was a study done and the contractor got his building permit.
- Amy said the bike corrals will be put out after street sweeping is complete. There are sponsorships available.
- John has been getting some complaints from Free Street businesses about Center Street being closed for event loading/unloading at the Cross Insurance Arena. City Manager Jon Jennings has been informed. PD might hear complaints.
- Denise said METRO will have 11 new buses with new branding unveiled this week. There will likely be a press preview on Friday. They want to have a bus at the Farmers Market on Saturday. The unveiling will take place slowly over the summer.
- Mike McDonald asked John whether Elm and Spring garages are taking monthly parkers? No, they are full.
- On July 1, 2018 the City will raise hourly garage parking rates at Elm and Spring Street garages to \$3.00 with the daily max staying at \$21.00. The monthly rate is going to \$130.00. Meters are going from \$1.25 to \$1.50.

Next meeting: Wednesday May 23rd at 9:00am.

Mike McDonald made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50, Phil Haughey seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Taffy Eaton, Recorder